

CHAPTER 8: GERIATRIC & EXTENDED CARE

GERIATRICS AND EXTENDED CARE SERVICES ó COATESVILLE VA

G&EC assists veterans in reaching their highest level of functioning by providing seamless, holistic care. Through a system of care management, G&EC provides assessment, prevention, stabilization and rehabilitation to eligible veterans with chronic health problems along the continuum of care.

Referrals

1. Applications for care are submitted to the Admissions Coordinators/Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) comprised of medical, social services and nursing staff who initiate the assessment process. Information needed to process the application are as follows:
 - a. VA inpatient units complete a GEC Pre-Admission information form, 10-10EC, and letter of understanding.
 - b. Community referrals must include: DD214, 10010EZ, statement of understanding, and medical records.
2. Eligibility is confirmed by Health Administration Services in partnership with the Admissions Coordinators/IDT.
3. The Admissions Coordinators/IDT determines the appropriate level of care for each applicant.
4. For more information or to tour our facility please contact our Geriatric & extended Care Admissions Coordinator: 610-384-7711, extension 5119/5127

Community Living Centers

- Short Stay Nursing & Rehabilitative Care
- Long Stay Nursing & Rehabilitative Care
- Short/Long-Stay Behavioral Health Care
- Short/Long-Stay Dementia Care
- Respite Stay
- Hospice & Palliative Care

****Please call the Admissions Coordinators at 610-384-7711, extension 5127 for specific admission criteria definitions.**

Services

G&EC offers complete continuity of care with services that include:

- Specialized Physician Care
 - Interdisciplinary Care Planning
 - Individualized Nursing Care
 - Physical, Speech, Occupational, and Recreational Therapy
 - Nutritional Counseling
 - Homemaker Home Health Aide
 - Community Adult Day Care
 - Skilled Nurse Visits
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- Respite Care & Home Hospice
 - Home Safety Evaluations
 - Spiritual Counseling

- Bereavement follow up and counseling
- Dementia Programs

Here at the Coatesville VAMC, we believe that no two people are alike. Each requires individual care and attention and is treated accordingly. This has been the resident center approach to treatment. Patient-specific care begins with the resident and his/her particular condition and respective needs. It results in choices concerning each patient's day-to-day living, service, and care options. With this approach, we help maintain the independence and dignity of our residents and provide the best possible lifestyle which in turn will ultimately increase their quality of life.

Eligibility

You are required to be enrolled in the VA Healthcare Network to be eligible for Geriatrics and Extended Care Services. For additional information regarding enrollment with the VA contact the eligibility clerk at 610-384-7711, extension 5034.

GERIATRICS AND EXTENDED CARE SERVICES

VA Medical Center
1400 Black Horse Hill Road
Coatesville, PS 19320

For more information or to tour our facility please contact our Geriatric & extended Care Admissions Coordinator: 610-384-7711, extension 5119/5127

[Geriatric & Extended Care Programs info/ DIRECTOR-GERIATRICS & EXT CARE SERVICES.061908]

GOLDEN MEMORY CLINIC

VA Medical Center
1400 Black Horse Hill Road
Coatesville, PA 19320-2096

For more information or to tour our program

**Please contact our Coordinator:
610-384-7711, extension 4349/4888**

First Golden Memory Clinic Appointment Information

What should I expect on my first Clinic appointment?

The first visit takes approximately 2 1/2 hours.

During this time, you will receive assessments by a Nurse and Geropsychiatrist. A Social Work Case Manager will educate you on potential services available and will contact you for a telephone assessment interview prior to your coming to the clinic for the first visit.

We suggest bringing a light lunch or snack if needed.

What must I bring to the Clinic for the first appointment?

- All medication bottles/containers with labels, including vitamins and herbal medications.
- All copies of test results or diagnostic results such as a CT Scan/MRI of the brain, recent lab results, and physician reports from previous examinations.
- A list of questions or concerns you may have.

Who should accompany the patient to the Clinic?

It is recommended that someone knowledgeable of the patient's medical condition, daily activities, and care needs transport the patient and participate in the patient's clinic evaluation.

Confidentiality regulations require the patient give authorization of the said person to participate in the patient's clinic evaluation.

Where Can I Park?

Parking is located directly in front of Building 4 which is adjacent to Building 1 where the clinic is located. Parking spaces are marked, "Golden Memory Clinic Parking on Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday." Additional parking is located along the front of Building 4 or any adjacent buildings.

Where is the Golden Clinic Located?

The Golden Memory Clinic is located in Building 1 on the Third Floor. A large flagpole is in front of Building 1. You may enter the building through the basement (handicap entrance), near the police entrance or use the front entrance (steps).

Mission Statement - Honor America's veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.

[Geriatric & Extended Care Programs info/ DIRECTOR-GERIATRICS & EXT CARE SERVICES.061908]

**Adult Day Health Care
Homemaker/Home Health Aide**

1400 Black Horse Hill Road
Coatesville, PA 19320-2096

For more information or to tour our program
Please contact our Coordinator:
610-384-7711, extension 5143

Adult day Health Care (ADHC)

Veterans receive care in licensed ADHC Centers; they live at home and attend ADHC one to five days per week; Monday to Friday. Veterans receive:

- Structured, therapeutic activities
- Medication monitoring
- Personal care (if needed)
- Balanced meals in a supervised setting

****The Coatesville VA Medical Center will pay reasonable rates for Adult Day Health Care. The VA does not provide transportation for ADHC.**

Homemaker/Home Health Aide (HHHA)

Veterans receive the services of a certified aide from a certified Medicare Agency. Services are provided on to five days per week. Veterans may receive assistance with:

- Bathing, shaving, dressing, toileting
- Ambulating
- Medication supervision
- Laundry
- Shopping (limited)
- Light housekeeping

****The Coatesville VA Medical Center will pay reasonable rates for Homemaker/Health Aide services**

Eligibility

Adult Day Health Care & Homemaker Home Health Aide: the veteran to be eligible for VA Health Benefits must have a VA primary care provider, be followed in a VA primary care clinic, and meet the requirements for Nursing Home Care. The veteran must have a residence with a non-paid provider.

Information - Please contact:

Coordinator for ADHC/HHA Services
Geriatrics & Extended Care Services (115)
Phone (610) 384-7711
Extension 5143, Pager 166

Mission Statement: To improve the health of those we serve by providing...Primary Care...specialty Care...Transitional Care...and Related Social Support Services.

[Geriatric & Extended Care Programs info/ DIRECTOR-GERIATRICS & EXT CARE SERVICES.061908]

HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Coatesville Medical Center

Hospice Care

Hospice care is specialized care for the veteran with a life limiting illness that cannot be cured. Our goal is to provide comfort and the opportunity for the highest quality of life possible for our veterans, and support for their loved ones. The hospice team of healthcare professionals at the Coatesville VA Medical Center offers the highest quality of specialized and compassionate care. When home care is not possible, we offer inpatient care in a warm and personal home-like environment. Veterans and families receive emotional and spiritual support in dealing with advanced illness and in preparation for life without a loved one.

Palliative Care

Palliative care is "comfort care". Some veterans with terminal illnesses do not qualify for hospice care due to having a life expectancy of more than 6 months, but are still experiencing significant symptoms in need of management. Veterans struggling with uncontrolled or unmanageable symptoms such as pain, nausea, shortness of breath, etc. may be admitted to the hospice unit for our comfort care program. Once the symptoms are under good control, the veteran would return to his previous residence.

Services

- Specialized Physician Care
- Nursing Care
- Emotional Support
- Spiritual Counseling
- Nutritional Counseling
- Physical, Speech, Occupational and Recreational Therapy
- Bereavement follow up and counseling
- All medical consultation services of the medical center
- Volunteer Support

Hospice and comfort care focus on the relief of pain and easing of symptoms rather than on finding a cure. You will find our hospice center provides the opportunity for people to gather in a pleasant home-like atmosphere. Our Meditation Room offers a quiet place for reflection, peace, and relaxation. There is a fully equipped kitchen available for use by veterans, family and friends. The garden in the hospice center courtyard has a waterfall and provides a serene and quiet area for walks and enjoyment.

The healthcare professionals at our facility have extensive experience in providing hospice and comfort care services. Our healthcare professionals are available to answer any of your questions and concerns. These compassionate, caring, understanding and concerned healthcare providers make our hospice and comfort care program outstanding.

When the veteran is close to death, he receives an enhanced level of one to one care. Our goal is for no veteran to die in pain, distress, or alone. Our loving and devoted staff members are dedicated to providing the best life and peaceful death for our veterans.

Eligibility: You must be enrolled in the VA Healthcare Network to be eligible for hospice or comfort care services. For additional information regarding enrollment with the VA contact the eligibility clerk.

HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE

VA Medical Center
1400 Black Horse Hill Road
Coatesville, PA 19320

**For more information or to tour our facility,
Please contact our Admissions Coordinator:
(610) 384-7711, extension 5119**

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RESPITE CARE

1400 Black Horse Hill Road

Coatesville, PA 19320-2096

For more information or to tour our facility

Please contact our Geriatric & extended Care Admissions Coordinator:

610-384-7711, extension 5119

Respite Care: the Respite Care Program is the VA's way of caring for disabled veterans while providing relief to care givers.

Many disabled veterans may be able to live at home, but not without the assistance of a family member or other non paid care giver. VA health care personnel recognized early on that caring for a veteran at home may place burdens on the family. The objective of this program is to provide relief (respite) to the veteran's caregiver from the physical and emotional burdens of care with the goal of preventing or delaying the veteran's placement in a nursing home.

Respite Care for the veteran is provided as an inpatient in a VA Nursing Home Care Unit (NHCU), attendance at Adult Day Health Care Program (ADHC), or in the Veteran's home through the Homemaker/Home Health Aide Program (H/HHA).

To receive Respite Care, A veteran must -

- Be eligible and enrolled in a Primary Care Clinic
- Have a chronic, disabling illness that requires the assistance of another person
- Meet the clinical criteria for nursing home care
- Have a residence with a non-paid caregiver

How Much Respite Care Is Granted?

Respite Care provides our veteran's primary care giver with temporary relief from 24-hours-a-day responsibilities for a total of 30 days per calendar year. One "day" of respite is counted as:

- Up to 6 hours per day in the home (H/HHA)
- More than 4 hours of care in ADHC
- 24 Hours of care per day in a VA or contract community nursing home. Note: There may be co-pay for this care.

For VA Inpatient (NHCU) Respite

The veteran is provided with:

- Room and board (including pajamas)
- Basic nursing care and assistance
- Prescribed medications
- A safe environment
- Basic conditioning and motivational therapies
- Social and recreational programs

Care givers are required to provide:

- Daytime clothing sufficient for length of stay
- Personal care items: Toothpaste, toothbrush, shaving equipment, after shave, deodorant, comb, brush, dentures/denture care materials, cigarettes (smoking is **not** permitted in any Medical Center buildings), spending money, all medications the veteran takes at home (for review by staff)
- For Inpatient VA Respite, please come into the Admission Area, Building 2 between 8am and 10am the morning of the respite admission.
- The veteran's laundry will be kept in a container in his/her locker to be picked up by the care giver at the end of the stay.
- In an emergency, we must be able to contact the care giver, even while on vacation. Please ensure that the unit staff has contact phone numbers.

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